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1 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
Deputy Director for Support
Director of National Estimates
General Counsel
Inspector General

SUBJECT : Historical Studies

1. For some years the Agency has engaged in a limited program of historical studies with the objective of applying lessons learned in our various programs to current operations and for the purpose of developing a history of the Agency and its many unique facets. However, to date this has been generally limited to the Clandestine Services. We are satisfied from the results of the Clandestine Services effort that this is a worthwhile program, although the extent of effort and method may vary among the several components.

2. We cannot devote large sums of money or numbers of people to this effort. It does seem important, however, as the Agency approaches its nineteenth anniversary and many of those who know the Agency intimately are retiring, to capture and record this knowledge now.

3. We do not intend to organize a large central staff to do this work and believe that it should be done within the various components. To this end we have employed [redacted] on the Historical Staff to coordinate the effort. I have asked him to talk with each of you to see what can be worked out on an informal basis for your area.

4. I think this effort is well worthwhile and should very much appreciate your cooperation.

[redacted]

L. K. White
Executive Director-Comptroller

cc: DD/P

[redacted]

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